MORRIS GEST'S

LITTLE

MIRACLE TOWN

WITH THE WORLD'S GREATEST MIDGET ARTISTES

NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR

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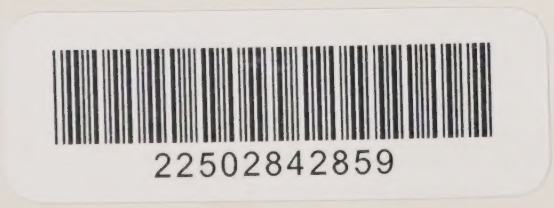
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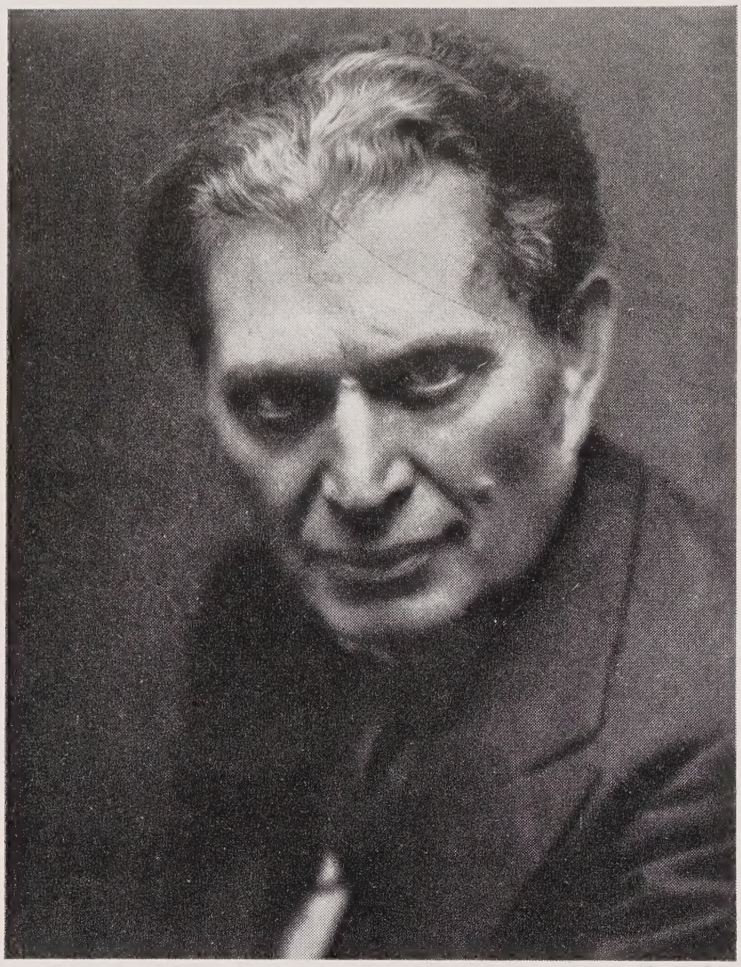
MIDGETS

The World's Population is rated at 2,000,000,000
of which it is estimated there are only 2,000 *Midgets*

There's only

"ONE IN A MILLION"

MORRIS "GULLIVER" GEST and *THE MIRACLE MIDGETS*



Morris Gest

To everyone who loves the Theatre, from Portland to Portland and from Winnipeg to the Gulf, Morris Gest is known as the producer of the world's greatest spectacles and the sponsor of the greatest artistic successes of the modern stage. His name is the synonym for the fabulous "Experience". the famed "Chu Chin Chow", the lavish and resplendent "Aphrodite" and "Mecca" and the overpoweringly beautiful religious spectacle "The Miracle", as well as for the glories of the Theatre International which he was the first to bring to America—The Ballet Russe, Michel Fokine, Balieff's Chauve Souris, the Moscow Art Theatre and its Musical Studio, as well as the Divine Duse on her farewell tour.

Always, he has specialized in doing big things in a big way or little things in an exquisitely simple way.

Now, for the first time with the Midgets of his LITTLE MIRACLE TOWN at the New York World's Fair, Morris Gest is doing little things in a big way.

When it was announced that Morris Gest was going to present Midgets at the World's Fair, those who knew his reputation for the super-colossal suspected that he would blossom forth as the overlord of a village of Giants! Hadn't he brought to America the greatest giant of all times, the Russian Makhno, while he was hunting hits for Hammerstein?

But when Morris Gest said Midgets, he meant Midgets! Only there were to be more of them than had ever been gathered together in the same company—seventy-six of them from twenty countries and provinces, and the most talented members of this strange human species, justly famed down the ages for mental and physical prowess.

"Midgets are gigantic," says Morris Gest, "Little in body but great in mind and heart. It was a great kindness that a Midget performed for me while I was making a pilgrimage to my father's grave that started this whole project of LITTLE MIRACLE TOWN.

"I had been asked to take part in the New York World's Fair. The great shows of the World's Fair would be the world of to-morrow in industry and science and the displays of the various nations. To compete would mean all work and no play. A Fair suggested to me the carnival spirit—fun. If I couldn't have fun, why bother?

"The Midgets of LITTLE MIRACLE TOWN seemed to be the answer.

"Someone said to me, 'Well, may your troubles be little ones'." But Morris Gest tells you that the Midgets are no trouble at all.

"I am having a good time," he says, "and in my Midget way I believe that I am setting a living example of how all Nations can live together in harmony—if not under the same roof, at least on the same platform, and that platform is the Platform of Peace!

"Here in LITTLE MIRACLE TOWN I feel the heartbeat of the world with Midgets from England, Scotland, Wales, France, Russia, Hungary, Austria, Italy, Greece, Germany, Yugoslavia, Holland, Czecho-Slovakia, Norway, Memel, Poland and many other countries and provinces.

"To bring about this LITTLE MIRACLE TOWN of PEACE is my Gulliver Gest-ure for the New York World's Fair."

The Company aboard the "Ile de France"

Morris Gest meets the Midgets on Arrival at New York

The Midgets bring greetings from The Mayor of Hull, York, England to Mayor LaGuardia of New York

The majority of the Midgets came over from Europe on the "Ile de France", which encountered very rough weather. In spite of this only two of the little people suffered any ill effects whereas about sixty per cent of the normal size passengers on the boat were "under the weather".

Five of the smallest horses in the world, belonging to the Midgets were rescued from the burning "Paris", together with many of the little people's costumes, and transferred to the "Champlain". The horses were accommodated in dog boxes for the Atlantic crossing.

The Cowboy and the Lady— and Ronnie Street

"Looking-Up"

MIDGETS MAKE GOOD IN A BIG WAY AT HOTEL BY CAUSING VERY, VERY LITTLE TROUBLE

By Marion Bussang

Staff Correspondent New York Post

GREAT NECK, L. I., April 26.—The guests of the Colony Hotel here were somewhat startled Friday night when they looked up from their newspapers to see seventy little people swarming across the lobby.

The little people, who ranged from two feet two to four feet three, were the advance guard of the midget citizenry of Morris Gest's Little Miracle Town at the World's Fair.

They took over one wing of the hotel—thirty rooms—at once, and by today had taken over the entire establishment, guests and all.

English, German, Russian and Hungarian, aged anywhere from nineteen to fifty-six, they have completely charmed their neighbors.

Breakfasters Await Them

Early breakfasters wait for them to start trickling sleepily into the dining room at 8 o'clock and invite them to sit with them.

The Lilliputians complain that they can't get any exercise because whenever they set out for a morning's fishing—the proportion of miniature Izaak Waltons among them is tremendous — they can scarcely get to the door without four or five offers of lifts from full-size people with cars. A car holds about fifteen midgets.

While the men fish, the ladies knit or beautify themselves. The married ones are particularly fussy about their appearances, according to three-and-a-half-foot Mrs. Edith Kaye, whose husband, Arthur, tops her by four inches. There are five married couples among the midgets. The Kayes are trapeze artists.

Princess Constant Primper

Princess Mignonette, pretty, blonde, twenty-four and three-feet-four, assured us that good grooming is almost a fetish with little people. She sets the wave in her hair every day and gives herself a facial at the same time.

Chess is a favorite game, bridge is another. The younger men midgets get out and kick a baby football around when they feel energetic.

After lunch there is one hour's rehearsal for the variety show the troupe will put on at the Fair, then the midgets set out for the movies at the urgent invitation of other hotel guests or take naps or sew or just talk. One lady midget said that midgets are probably among the gossipiest people on earth.

English Dress for Dinner

The English midgets generally dress for dinner. They have a white man's burden sort of attitude about it.

After dinner, more cards, more movies, more talk, and many a visit to the hotel bar, where they drink, too much, they say, because people insist on standing them their whisky-and-sodas.

The hotel staff pampers the little people. The manager told us he had never known such pleasant, thoughtful, neat or uncomplaining clients anywhere he had worked. Midgets, he said, are the hotel man's dream of perfect guests.

MIDGET — DWARF — PIGMY — LILLIPUTIAN
WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

A MIDGET is a reproduction in miniature of a perfectly proportioned normal human being, whose greatest height is four feet six inches, and whose smallest known measurement is one foot seven inches.

A DWARF is a person stunted in growth, but generally thought of as having some deformity.

A PIGMY is the next classification in height to a Midget, ranging from four feet six inches to four feet eleven inches. The PIGMY is racial and begets its own kind, thus propagating and perpetuating the PIGMY race, while Midgets seldom give birth to Midgets.

A LILLIPUTIAN is the inhabitant of Lilliput, a fabled country created in the mind of Jonathan Swift in his classic "Gulliver's Travels", a political satire. The LILLIPUTIANS were diminutive people in this work of fiction, and their name has come to be broadly used for Little People anywhere.

JUST IN CASE YOU WONDER WHY

Question: Why are Midgets Midgets?

Answer: In some cases the thyroid gland is very small, permitting the child to grow only until the gland is used up. Then the actual growth of the child stops, but the brain continues to develop the same as in normal people.

In other cases the responsibility rests with the pituitary gland, lying in a depression of the skull and attached to the base of the brain. When this gland does not develop properly, growth is halted and we have Midgets.

Question: Are there different classifications of Midgets?

Answer: Yes, there are three classifications—the Primordial Midget, the Infantile Midget, the True Midget.

Question: How do these differ?

Answer: The Primordial Midget is a Midget at birth, generally of normal parents. Except for stature, he develops in sex and mind like a normal person.

The Infantile Midget is normal at birth and develops mentally but rarely sexually.

The True Midget is born normal, develops normally in mind and sex, except that the age of puberty is in the late 'teens or early twenties.

Question: How do Midgets grow?

Answer: Normal mankind ceases to grow in the early twenties as the bone ends close. The Primordial or born Midget reaches his extreme height at twenty-five and never grows after that age, as his bone ends close like those of a normal person.

In the Infantile and True Midget classifications, both born normal, the growth is generally retarded at or before the fifth year, after which Midgetism occurs.

Midgets of both of these classes sometimes grow amazingly after thirty, as their bone ends are not closed. Although they may grow into the Pigmy class, they seldom if ever reach normal height. The period when abnormalities occur in growing is "the age of onset". One develops into a Midget or a Giant, generally before puberty and more often under the age of five.

Question: Is Midgetism inherited?

Answer: Midgetism is not supposed to be hereditary, as cases of Midgets from generation to generation are seldom if ever known. Midgets rarely beget their kind. Any normal person may give birth to a Midget or a Giant.

Question: What quantity of food do Midgets eat?

Answer: Because Midgets' metabolic rate is one and a half times that of normal individuals they must eat and drink more in relation to size to maintain sufficient energy. A Midget may eat one-twenty-fifth of his entire weight at a single sitting, and drink enough liquid to provide a bath. They can often "drink under the table" a normal person.

PLENTY OF SUN AND FRESH AIR

Another question frequently asked is "How do Midgets keep so physically fit and strong?"

The best answer is that they are well looked after and that they look after themselves well. Further, they are all encouraged to take as much advantage of the sun and air as possible.

The Midgets are all sun-bathers, and they never miss an opportunity of getting a sun-bath or a swim. During the summer they go out in parties and find a secluded spot where they can play games and swim with the minimum amount of clothing.

These photos show the perfect physical proportions of the Midgets

During the Medical Conference at Bournemouth, England, several years ago, many of the Doctors were greatly interested in the Midgets of Fred Roper's company who were appearing at the Bournemouth Theatre, and various committees made special examinations of members of the company, two very famous X-ray doctors taking over sixty X-ray photographs.

The result of the examinations astonished the Doctors, who admitted they were astounded to find such perfectly formed little people.

Kalahari Desert Bushmen visit the Midgets

King of Swaziland with the Little People

The Midgets at Madeira

With South African Native Belles and Piccaninnies

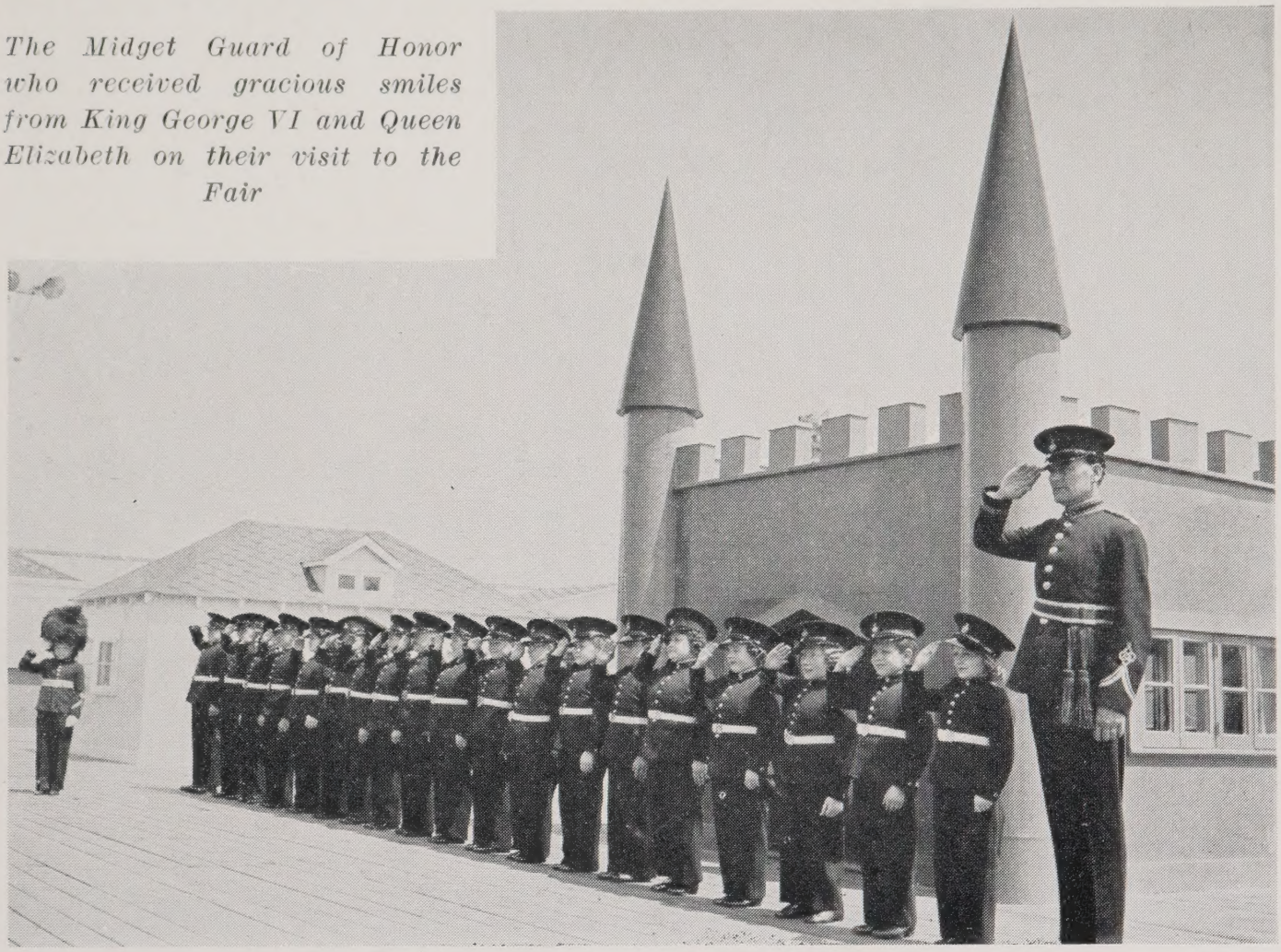
THE GROUPS INHABITATING LITTLE MIRACLE TOWN

Roper's Midgets. Fred Roper was engaged for some special work at the Tower, Blackpool, England in 1929. Appearing at the Tower was a company of Midgets, who were disbanded at the end of the season.

Mr. Roper had become very attached to the little people, and decided to rehearse them, bring out their natural talents, and form a new type of entertainment—a musical show by Midgets.

The little band numbered 12 at its initial performance, but the fame of the show soon got around and new members joined. The company expanded and embraced other types of entertainment. In the past ten years they have travelled the world appearing in Vaudeville, Circus, Cabaret and Films, and are firm radio favorites in several countries. Over eight million people have seen the shows given by this talented Company.

The Midget Guard of Honor who received gracious smiles from King George VI and Queen Elizabeth on their visit to the Fair



Glauer's Midgets. Heinrich Glauer, at the age of 14, discovered that his stature prevented him from following his inclination to become a painter or musician. His uncle obtained an engagement for him in a Midget troupe. When Mr. Glauer's younger brother, also a Midget, left school, he joined the same company.

In 1914 the two brothers were appearing in a Midget Village in Lyon. They were interned in a French prison for eight weeks before they were permitted to go to Spain. From Spain they managed to get back to Germany via Holland. Later another brother and a cousin, both Midgets, joined the same Company. Heinrich did the shopping and cooking, saving money all the time to enable him to start his own troupe.

This troupe, part of the Little Miracle Town company, has appeared before many world celebrities including the Pope, the ex-King of Spain, the King of Sweden and the late Kemal Attaturk.

Rebernigg Midgets. Robert Rebernigg is the son of a man who was the proprietor of a famous circus in Vienna. Appearing in the Circus were two Midgets for whom Robert had a great affection, so he decided to take them on a tour of the Theatres.

In Jugoslavia he came across two more Midgets and during further travels in France, Italy and Czechoslovakia added others until his present company was formed.

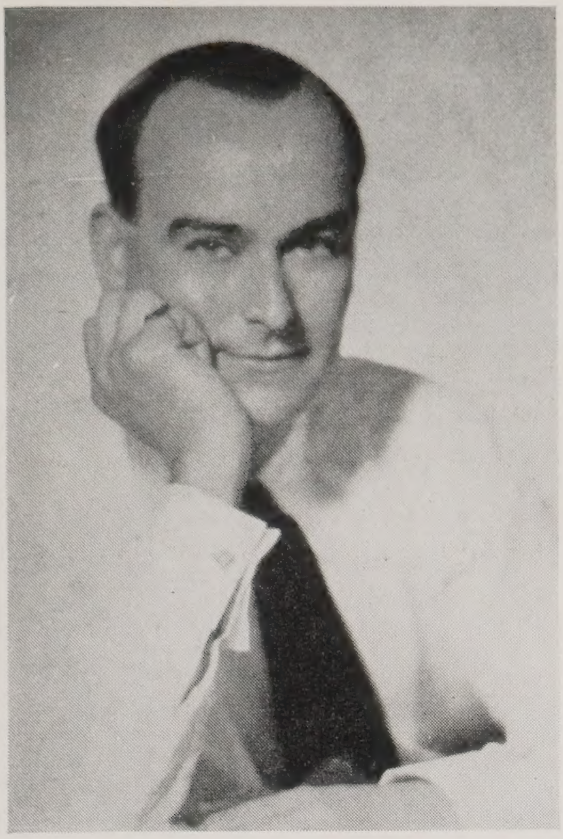
Prior to coming to America this troupe appeared with great success in Italy for over two years.

Andre Ratoucheff Midgets. Andre Ratoucheff hails from Mr. Gest's own birthplace —Russia. When his father Nicolas Ratoucheff, one of Russia's foremost Shakespearean actors, discovered that his son was a Midget, he conceived the idea of forming a midget company of fifteen, with which he toured successfully throughout Russia.

Morris Gest and Andre Ratoucheff as Morris Gest

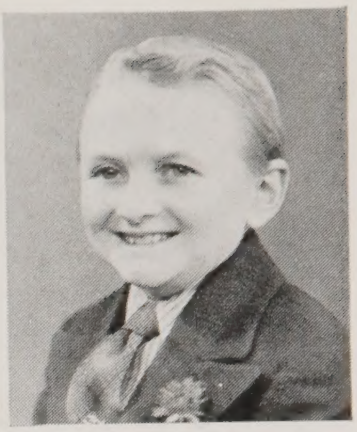
When the revolution broke out, the company was playing in Moscow, with Andre rivalling the celebrated comic opera comedian, Monakhoff.

After long engagements among the Don Cossacks and in the Caucasus, the Ratoucheff Midgets left for Turkey and Central and Western Europe. They made their first trip to the United States 15 years ago to participate in the Ziegfeld Follies of 1924. Since the death of his father Andre has headed the company himself.

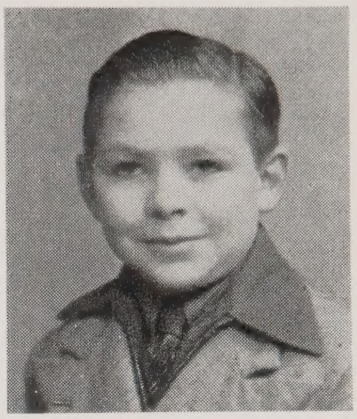


Fred Roper

Princess Mignonette



Ronnie Street



James Wetton

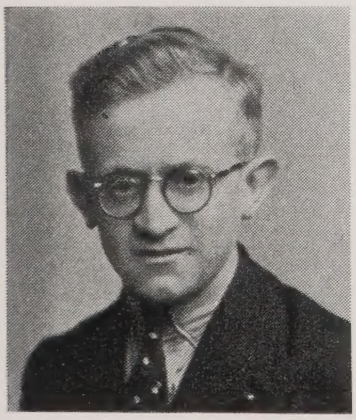
Little Lady Godiva

Elsie May Lewis

Ronald Phillips

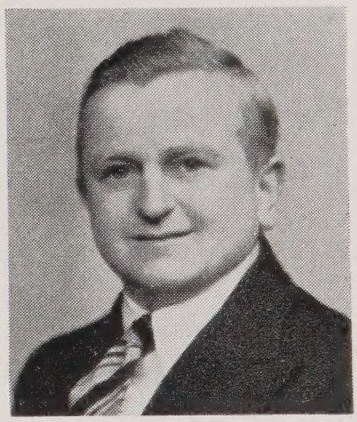
Mary Best

Marcus Powell



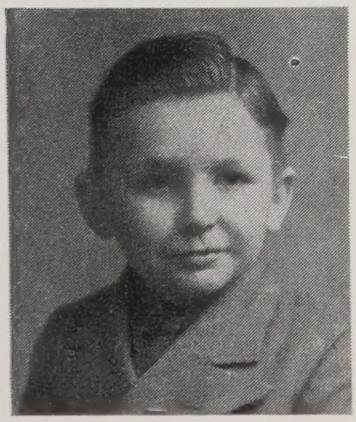
Arthur Kaye

Mrs. Arthur Kaye



Max Chrysler

Mrs. Max Chrysler



Geoffrey Barratt

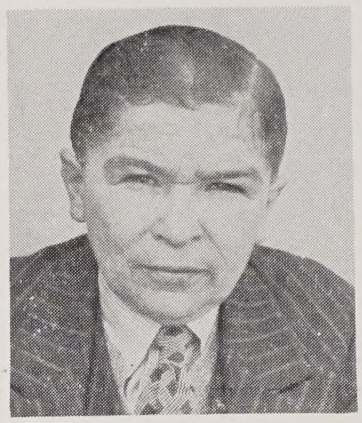
Lily Ledair

Babette Ledair

Roy Penney

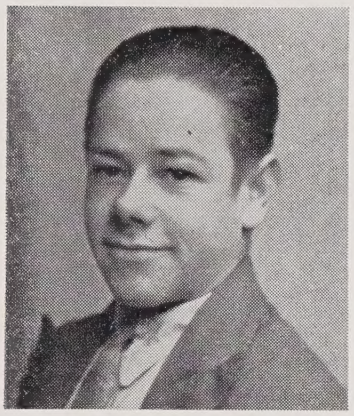
George Stoddart

Mrs. George Stoddart



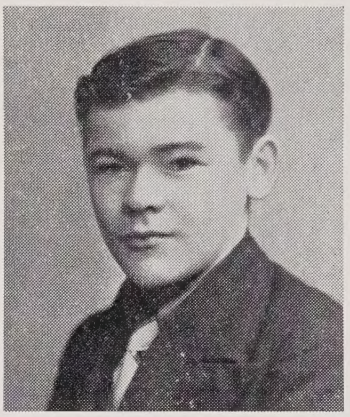
Leonard Frank

Sonia Frank

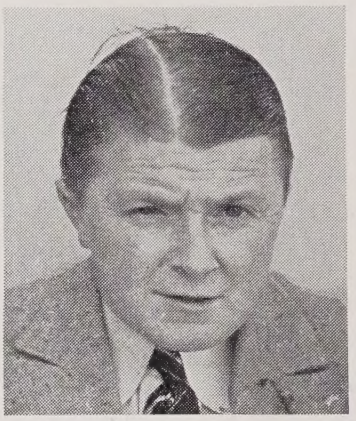


Samuel Thurling

Dorothea Parker



Jack Bacon

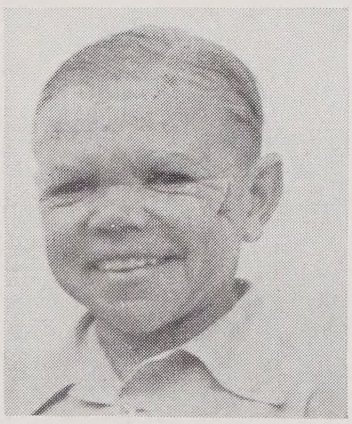


Vivian Pascoe

James Atherton

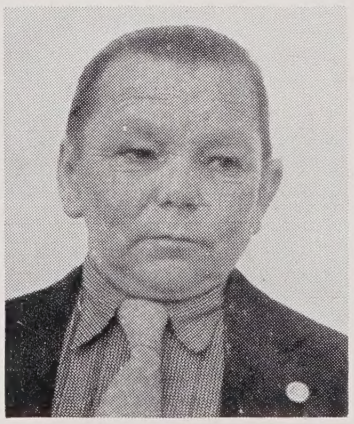
Norman Halliday

Simon Frank



Andre Ratoucheff

Macrina Kourassa



Nicolas Souryn

Marina Yamtchikoff

Heinrich Glauer

Charlotte Wolka

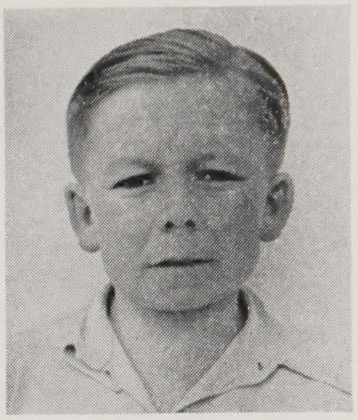
Frederich Rus

Helen Rus

Mary Rus

Walter Rus

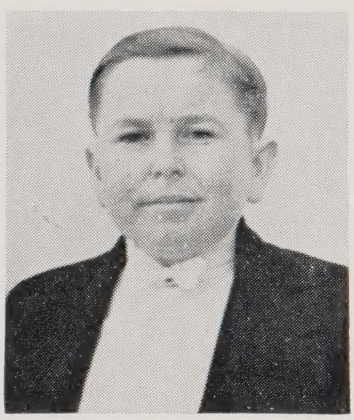
Agnes Stanitzok



Albert Konieczny

Herman Retter

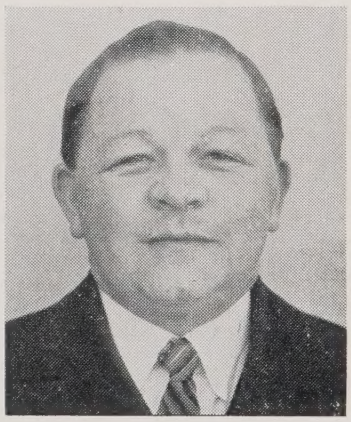
Mrs. Herman Retter



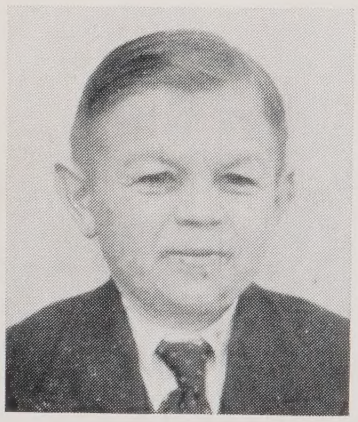
Adolph Glauer

Mrs. Adolph Glauer

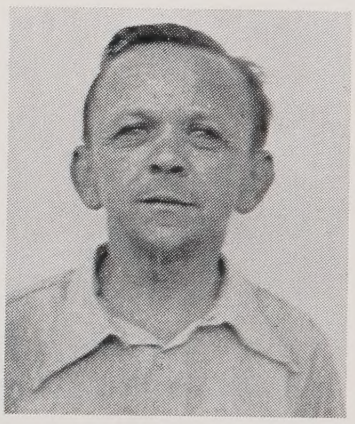
Otto Lasker



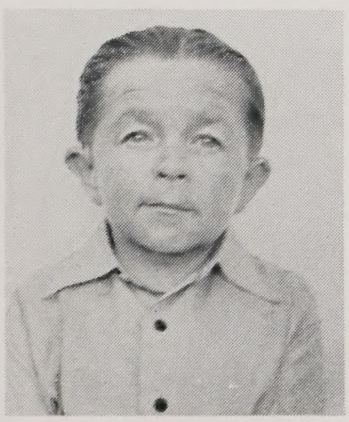
Karl Kloiber



Otto Frasdorf



Paul Wolka



Paul Glauer

Willie Esser

Arthur Huhle

Bruno Glauer

Fritz Soucek

Mimi Krisch

Alois Yasek

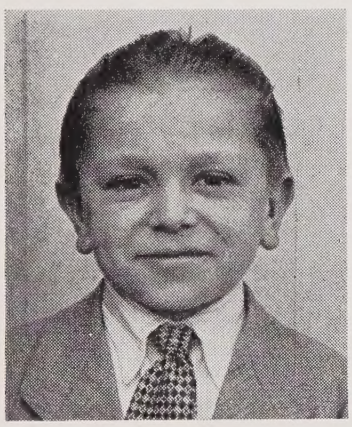
Maria Gazzano

Theresa Roblicka

William Haasz

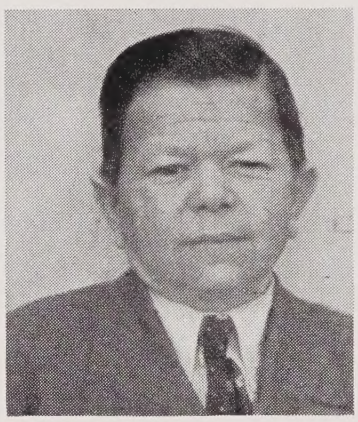
Hilda Karollus

Frederick Karollus

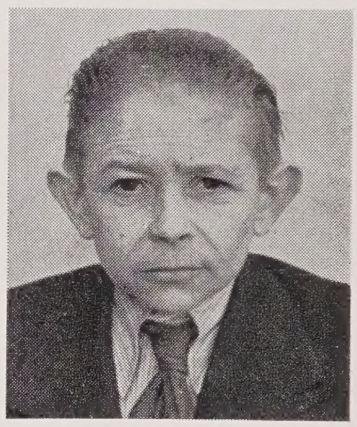


Pepi Krisch

Elizabeth Tollner



Alois Sadik



George Ruff

THE LITTLE PEOPLE OF LITTLE MIRACLE TOWN

AROUND THE TOWN

THE TOWN HALL. Mayor Henry Glauer will welcome you to this little City—if he's still in Office.

HONEYMOON HOUSE. Is occupied by the most recently married couple in the community. At the time of going to press Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Kaye are the residents; they were married in South Africa last year.

TWIN-SPIRES. Andre Ratoucheff is at home here and pleased to welcome visitors in many languages. Andre was born in Russia but is now a citizen of France.

THE ENCHANTED COTTAGE. Is shared by two charming little ladies, Princess Mignonette and Little Lady Godiva, both from England. The last named lady derives her name from her home-town-Coventry.

THE BLUEBELL. Another recently married couple here. Mr. & Mrs. Adolph Glauer, who tied the knot at Blackpool, England, last year.

VILLA LOUISE. Is the residence of two little ladies from sunny Italy, Maria Gazzano and Elizabeth Tollner.

THE HOMESTEAD. Here you will find Mr. & Mrs. Paul Wolka and their charming daughter Charlotte, the youngest member of the Town.

THE POST OFFICE. Has many officials, and here you can obtain a post-card with the Little Miracle Town postmark.

HOME SWEET HOME. Mr. & Mrs. Max Chrysler, our oldest married couple, are the occupants of this charming little home.

THE GUILDHALL. Used for meetings and other official functions, and sometimes the scene of a quiet game of cards.

MYSTIC HOUSE. Is occupied by Mlle. Elsie, the world famous Midget Palmist. This little lady, who hails from Wales, has been consulted by thousands of people throughout the world.

THE GARAGE. Houses a 1 h.p. Sedan with the engine in the tail. Has a maximum speed of about 15 miles per hour —on the flat.

CAMBRIDGE COTTAGE. The bachelor quarters of James Wetton and Geoffrey Marsden Barrett, two small gentlemen from Great Britain.

THE STABLES. Here you will find five of the world's smallest horses under the capable care of James Atherton.

ROSE VILLA. The Sisters Ledair — Lily & Babette, smallest twin sisters in the world, occupy this charming two story residence.

OLDE WELCOME COTTAGE. Is the typical old English home of Mr. & Mrs. George Stoddart, who have enjoyed seven years of happy married life.

WILLFRED HOUSE. The smallest building, houses William Haasz of Budapest, Hungary, and Frederick Karollus of Vienna, both bachelors at the moment.

THE GIANT'S HOUSE. Furnished to scale with a bed 9 feet in length, huge dressing table and chest, and armchair large enough to seat three normal people.

THE COUNTRY CLUB. Where the Midgets eat 57 varieties in 14 different languages.

HOTEL LILLIPUT. Occupied by the other Midgets, is always full. Service must be good as no one ever checks out.

Last, but by no means least

THE THEATRE. Where Morris Gest stages programmes with the cream of the world's Lilliputian talent. Actors, Comedians, Musicians—there are three Bands, Singers, Dancers, Jugglers, Acrobats, Trick Cyclists, Magicians, Trapeze artistes and every other conceivable type of entertainment.
To present the full repertoire of these clever little artistes would take over 30 hours; in the LITTLE MIRACLE TOWN THEATRE continuous programs of 30 minutes duration are given throughout the day,

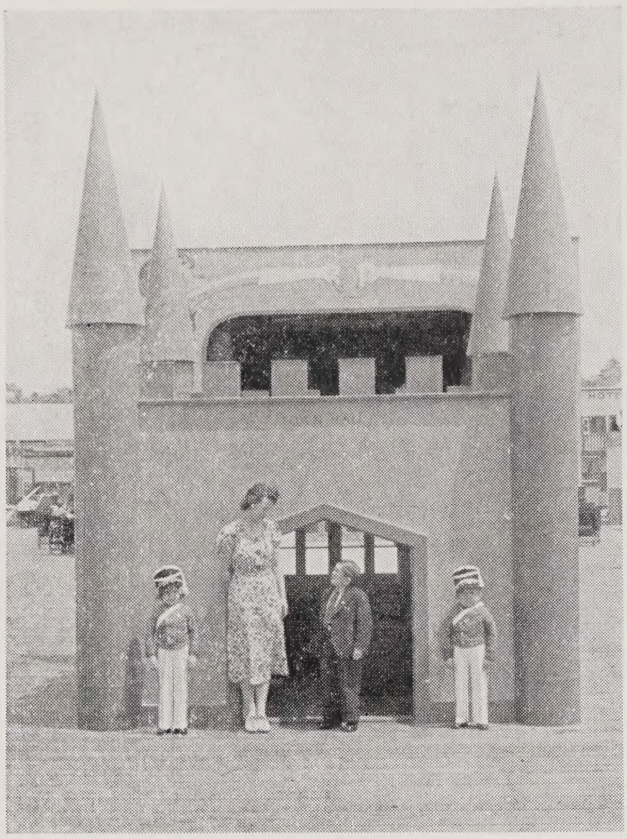
and after the Show you can eat and

drink at

LITTLE MIRACLE TOWN

RESTAURANT

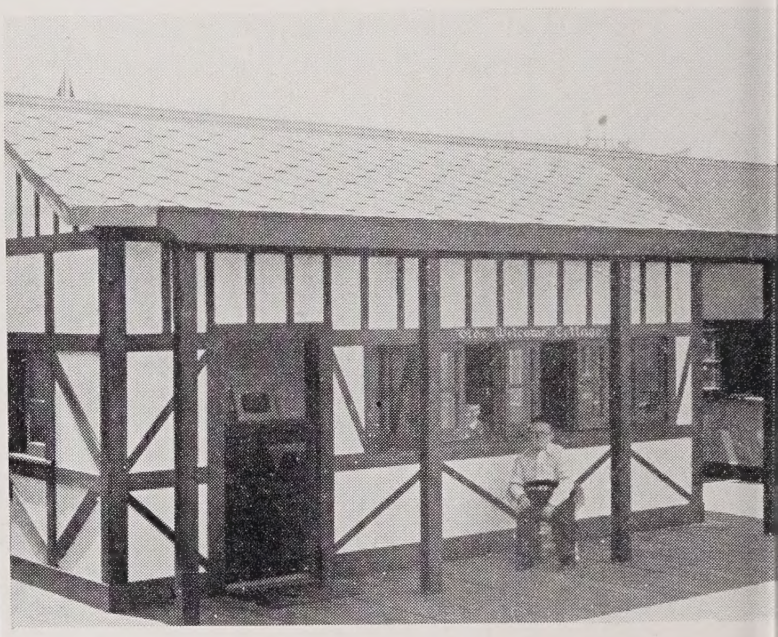
LITTLE M



Town Hall—The Mayor, his Bodyguard and a Guest

Morris Gest with the Midget Police Commission

Sunday Morning News

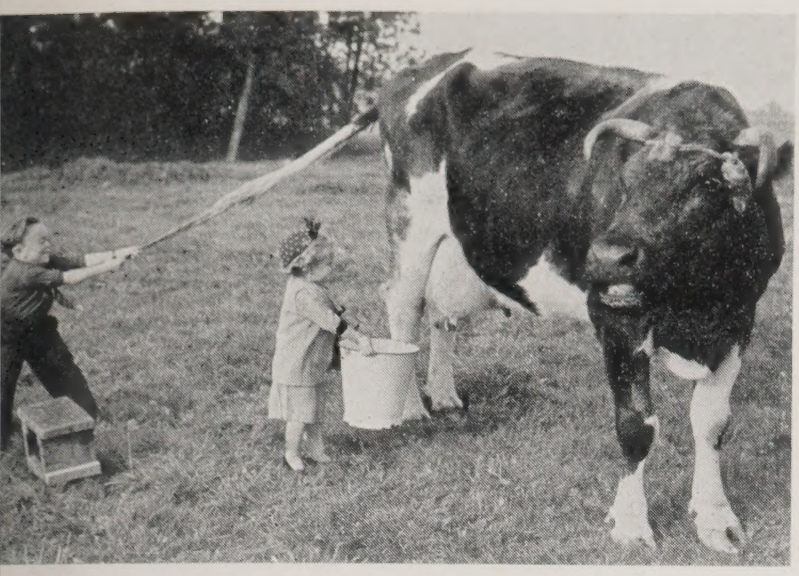


An Old English Home

A Hotel Rendezvous

Andre with the Ladies

CLE TOWN

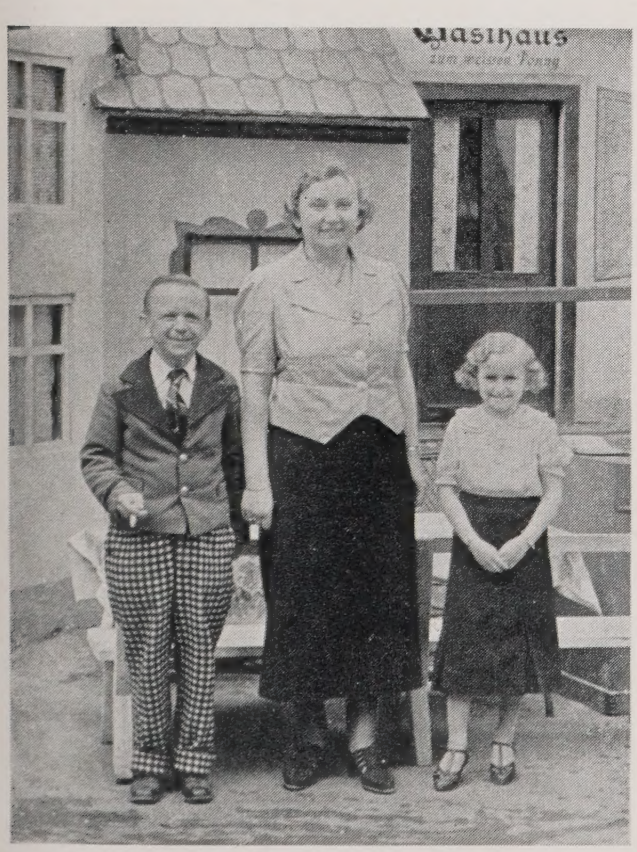


"Please sit down"

The Perfumery

Honeymoon House

Andre and Willie between the Acts



Mr. and Mrs. Wolka and Daughter

Roof Lighting

MIDGETS — DOWN THE AGES

By Marjorie Barkentin

Midgets are as old as humanity. They are recorded from the stone age. The ancient Egyptians worshipped a Midget whom they elevated to Ptah, the artisan God. Any Midget was revered as a symbol of this God, and therefore royally treated. They became favorites of the dynasties of the Nile Valley, and this custom soon spread to other countries.

In Rome, the Emperor Augustus collected Midgets. His favorite was less than two feet high. His niece, Julia, kept two—Conopas and his sister Andromedia. Neither was more than two feet four inches in height. Domitian had so many that, for his amusement, he trained them as a group of gladiators in the arena. Tiberius Caeser often depended upon a Midget for his wisdom in affairs of state. Marius Maximus and Marcus Tullius, Midgets of two feet four inches, were made "Knights of Rome". Marc Antony's personal Midget was less than two feet tall.

Every noble Roman family prided itself on a Midget in its retinue. Such lavish gifts were showered on these diminutive people, who were dressed almost solely in precious jewels, that scheming rogues tried to develop Midgets through mal-nutrition or stunting the growth of infants by binding their bodies or plying them with alcoholic brews. All this, however, resulted only in sick and puny children.

The Jews had treated Midgets kindly. Midgets are referred to in both the Old and New Testaments.

After the period of Roman favor, Midgets retained their high position during the Middle Ages. Charles IX had his favorite Little People. Catherine de Medici, Princess Natalia—sister of Peter the Great of Russia, Isabelle d'Este and her sister Beatrice, were all interested in mating Midgets to try to propagate their kind. The courts of Sweden also favored Midgets in the nineteenth century.

In England, Queen Mary had a Midget as Page of Honor. He was John Jarvis, three feet eight inches tall. Charles I had as page Richard Gibson, who became noted as a court painter of miniatures. Queen Henrietta Maria's Midget protege, Ann Shephard, was noted for her beauty and became the wife of Richard Gibson with the pomp of a court wedding. There were nine normal children born to this union, five of whom grew to adulthood. Mrs. Gibson lived to the age of eighty-nine. Queen Elizabeth delighted in the beauty of Mrs. Tomysen her favorite Midget.

The royal favor for Midgets led to a commerce in these little people. They began to be publicly exhibited. Many beauties were recorded, notably Lady Morgantina,—"The Windsor Fairy"; Miss Selby,—"The Guernsey Nymph"; Madame Teresia,—"The Corsican Fairy" and Caroline Crachami, a beauty of Sicily.

Medical records vouch for a perfectly formed woman who was one foot seven inches in height. This was Pauline Musters, born of normal parents in Holland. She was the smallest adult Midget ever officially attested. A famous French Midget, Princess Topaze of Paris, was one foot eleven and a half inches tall and weighed only fourteen pounds although she was perfectly formed.

Numerous Midgets now won favor on exhibition. Fairs and carnivals always featured Midgets. Midgets of superstitious parents, who thought they were evil visitations upon them, welcomed the opportunity to join the show folk, as their lives were miserable at home. Besides the mere exhibition of Midgets as curiosities, some of these talented little folk became as well known for their artistry as for their diminutive size. Notable among them was Nanette Stocker, two feet six inches in height, who at the age of sixteen was a marvellous pianist. She attracted the attention of John Hauptmann, himself two feet nine inches at the age of twenty. He was a noted violinist and when they joined forces they were acclaimed as great musicians. It is said that his unrequited love for Nanette was poured into his compositions and his superb playing.

Joseph Borulwaski, born in Russian Poland, became the protege of Countess Humiecka when he was only eight years old and one foot eight inches in height. At the age of twenty-one he was two feet two inches. He grew into a Don Juan, and, as the Countess travelled with him to all of the Courts of Europe, he became a sensation. His amorous adventures finally led her to seclude him in her palace. Here, however, he fell in love with the companion of the Countess, a normal woman, married her, and was banished by the Countess after an association of thirty years. He made a fortune touring and exhibiting himself, had two normal children, published his autobiography which was highly successful, and died in 1837 at the age of ninety-eight.

About this time, 1832, the most publicized Midget of all time was born — Charles Sherwood Stratton—who at the age of ten was brought to the attention of Phineas T. Barnum. Barnum engaged this child Midget, named him Tom Thumb, and paid his parents three dollars a week for a month. The second contract was for a year at seven dollars a week. The third year, after Tom Thumb had brought to Barnum's box office a quarter of a million dollars, his salary was increased to fifty dollars a week. By the time he was twenty, however, money matters had been fairly adjusted and Tom Thumb retired to live on his fortune.

When Barnum lost everything, Tom Thumb came out of his retirement and made another fortune for him, retiring again at the age of twenty-six. At thirty, he met Lavinia Warren, two feet eight inches tall. Their wedding was one of the seven wonders, and their adventures abroad, managed by Barnum, were sensational. At forty, after a third tour, the "General" retired permanently and lived in great luxury until his death by apoplexy in 1883 at the age of fifty-one.

Through unfortunate investments after his death, Mrs. Tom Thumb again took up a public life and married Ernest Magri, three feet nine inches, who became known as Mrs. Tom Thumb's husband. When they retired after a public life of over fifty years, it was into a miniature home in Marion, Ohio, where they were still on exhibition. Mrs. Tom Thumb died at the age of seventy-eight and her husband two years later.

Another Barnum Midget was Major Nutt, unsuccessful rival of Tom Thumb, who became his best man at the wedding, with Minnie Warren, Lavinia's sister, as bridesmaid.

Although Tom Thumb's fame obscured that of other Midgets, the first recorded American Midget was Calvin Phillips, born in Massachusetts in 1791. He was also said to be the first to be exhibited for a fee. Two feet two and a half inches tall at the age of nineteen, he weighed only twelve pounds dressed. Undoubted victim of thyroid and pituitary gland trouble, he died prematurely of old age at twenty-one.

A score or more of famous Midgets emerged in the United States. Perhaps the best known contemporary of Tom Thumb was Chiquita, the Cuban, two feet five inches tall, who married a man of normal size.

The most important result of Tom Thumb's popularity was to restore the Midget again to the guise of Royalty's favorite and the pet of world celebrities. Today, Midgets are looked upon as important though diminutive people who claim respect and admiration, not only because Nature has made them masterpieces in miniature—literally "one in a million"—but also because they are talented in the arts of music, dance, painting, theatre. It is as artists that they prefer to claim attention. And it is as artists that Morris Gest presents these Little People of LITTLE MIRACLE TOWN.

WORLD-FAMOUS MIDGETS

GODS: The early Egyptians worshipped PTAH, Midget God of Artists and Artisans, and BES, Midget God of Laughter and Luxury.

KINGS: CROESUS, King of, Lydia in the Fifth Century B.C., is said to have been a Midget, though his name is best known as a by-word for wealth. WLADISLAUS I, of Poland, was affectionately known by his subjects and soldiers by the nickname of "Cubitalis" from cubit, a measure as long as the forearm, or "Lokistek" meaning a "Span-long". He fought heroically for years and recaptured vast territories for Poland.

CHARLES III, in 1352, was King of Naples and Sicily, and a Midget.

WRITERS: PHILUS OF COS, a famed poet in the fourth Century B.C.

ALYPIUS OF ALEXANDRIA in the fourth Century A.D., was a writer, logician and philosopher, less than two feet eight inches in height.

AESOP, whose fables have been known round the world and throughout the ages, was a Midget.

JOHN BACONTHORPE, a Midget, was an alumnus of Oxford and the Sorbonne.

ORATORS: C. LICINIUS CALVUS, of Rome, rival to Cicero, was three feet high.

"MR. RAMUS", according to John Evelyn, founder of the Royal Society, was an English Midget who went with the British Ambassador to Vienna in 1678 and made a speech in Latin with such grace and so much eloquence as merited "a golden chain and medal of the Emperor".

ECCLESIASTICS: GREGORY, Bishop of Tours, was a Midget.

GODEAU, Archbishop of France in the seventeenth Century, was also a Midget.

ARTISTS: Richard Gibson, born in England and three feet ten inches high, became court painter of miniatures which even to-day hang with such masters as Raphael, da Vinci, Rembrandt, Titian and Hals

MUSICIANS: NANETTE STOCKER, pianist.

JOHN HAUPTMANN, violinist, composer, both of the eighteenth Century.

FAMOUS GLAMOR GIRLS: LADY MORGANTINA, "The Windsor Fairy". The great little MISS BILLING of Tilbury.

MISS SELBY of Guernsey.

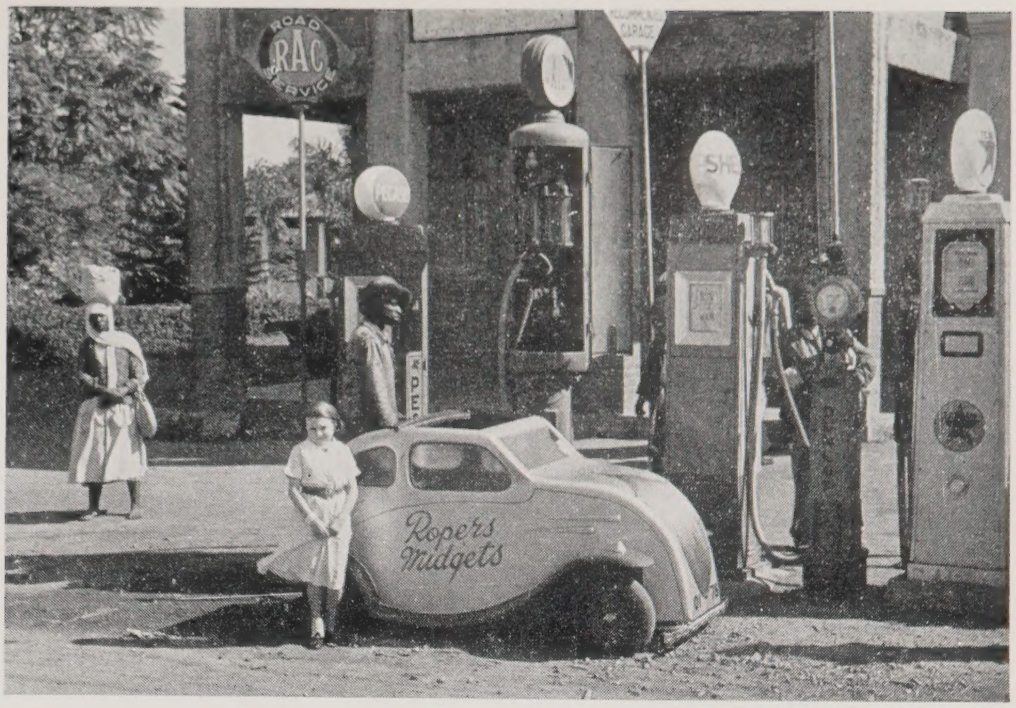
MADAME TERESIA "The Corsican Fairy"

LONG-LIVED MIDGETS: ANNE CLOWES was 109 years old at her death in Derbyshire, England in 1784.

EMERSON, reputed to be only one foot three inches, died in London in 1575 at the age of 92.

JOSEPH BORULWASKI, known as the Polish Count and Don Juan, died at ninety-eight in the year 1837.

MRS. TOM THUMB died at the age of 78.



SMALLEST SEDAN IN THE WORLD

Reprint from Durban (Union of South Africa) Newspaper

The road hog's nightmare—15 miles per hour "flat out," 1 h.p., single speed.

The car owner's dream—80 m.p.g., genuine leather upholstery, new sedan for £135.

Durban saw the world's smallest sedan car last week when the Autocar, the property of the Wonder Midgets, was on exhibit. It is so small that a reverse gear is not necessary. If you want to reverse all you do is to get out, catch hold of the front bumper and turn round.

It ought to be the perfect size for solving parking difficulties, but like many a bigger brother did not escape from Durban unscathed. While being parked one day in West Street it accidentally ran under the back bumper of a large car and had the bonnet badly dented. An outsize in breakdown trucks arrived, hooked up the Autocar and pulled it through the streets to a garage.

While in Durban it was given an expert "once over" by Messrs. B. and B. Motors. The job was a delicate one. Lifting out the entire power unit was simple —one man did it easily, but working on the minute engine was more a task for a watchmaker.

ENGINE IN TAIL

The car is engined by a one and a half power two-stroke motor housed in the tail. The whole car weighs a fraction more than 400 lb. and stands 2 ft. high. It was originally designed as a single-seated touring runabout, but has been stripped to the chassis and reconstructed with a sedan body to seat two people—two Midgets—in comfort.

In practically every way the Autocar is a perfect miniature of a large streamlined car. There are pneumatic tyres which measure 14 in. in diameter, a sunshine roof, leather upholstery, an instrument panel (of sorts), air cushions and an aluminum body. The only way an ordinary-sized man can drive the car is by sitting with his head through the sunshine roof. As for speed, it can manage 15 miles an hour, and will top Berea Road with a good run. The petrol consumption is in the neighborhood of 80 miles to the gallon. In case the tank should run dry a reserve supply is carried in a medicine bottle.

The car is simplicity itself to handle, the clutch, gear and accelerator being synchronised. A rod with teeth working on a cog starts the motor and when the brake is released and the accelerator pressed, away goes the car looking the last word in smartness with silver body-work and red fenders.

The Autocar cost £135 to land in South Africa, and the owner had to pay £4 for a year's license to the Free State, where it is at the moment registered.

MIDGET WEDDINGS

THE MARRIAGE OF GEORGE STODDART AND EVA CRANE

There is always a great excitement over a wedding, but when the contracting parties are Midgets, looking like little children, the excitement and interest is multiplied a hundredfold.

Fred Roper's first experience of this was in Bristol in March, 1930. A marriage had been arranged between George Stoddart and Eva Crane. All arrangements had been made and the papers had received news of the forthcoming wedding and had been writing it up during the week previous.

When he arrived at the station on Sunday night he found a huge crowd of people, estimated by the police to be 10,000. The station was besieged and the streets outside thronged with people anxious to see the Midget couple. The station was damaged to the extent of about £20, windows broken and seats being smashed in the crowd's excitement.

It was necessary to lock the entire Company in a waiting-room and to 'phone for police protection before he could leave the station.

The excitement in the city was getting stronger and stronger as each day passed, but something very unfortunate had happened. Owing to a previous contract entered into by one of the parties to be married, it was essential that the real name be kept secret for at least another year. As the press had stirred up public interest to such an extent, there was bound to be a full report of the wedding, with names, ages, etc., which, when published would have had very unfortunate results.

There was only one thing to do—cancel the wedding, for the time being, or get the couple married at a secret place. He made every endeavor to do this, but though he nearly moved heaven and earth, he failed.

Now he had the public to think of; if he suddenly announced that the wedding would not take place, the public would at once think the whole thing had been an advertising stunt, and this would probably have caused trouble with the theatre management, spoiled business for the rest of the week, and left a bad name behind. There was only one thing to do—carry out a big bluff and not disappoint the public.

They expected a wedding and would not be satisfied unless they got one. It was therefore decided to carry out the arrangements already organized, including the wedding breakfast at the Royal Hotel.

All the churches in the city had crowds outside waiting for the Midget bride and bridegroom, but the bride and bridegroom were being driven along country roads miles away after a hide-and-seek chase by three Press cars, the occupants of which were endeavoring to find out where the ceremony was to take place.

They finally eluded the Press, and at the appointed time, the couple drove up to the Royal Hotel for the Wedding breakfast; the crowd saw the bridal party and were satisfied.

MIDGET WEDDINGS (continued)

The actual wedding was postponed until March, 1932, when the couple were married at the Blacksmith's Shop, Gretna Green, but Mr. Stoddart said: "I am taking no chances this time" and two weeks later Mr. and Mrs. Stoddart had their marriage solemnized at St. Michael's Church, York, on Wednesday, April 6th, 1932.

The wedding again caused great excitement, the Square in front of the Church being packed with thousands of interested people, and huge vans with sound film appeared belonging to three of the principal Gazettes and News Reels. It was a hectic day for all—but who cared? Mr. and Mrs. Stoddart at last felt they were really married, and that was all that mattered.

Above: Mr. and Mrs. George Stoddart and their Wedding Party.
Top, Right: Mr. and Mrs. Stoddart during the Ceremony at Gretna Green.
Right, Centre: Talkie Cameras and Sound Apparatus outside St. Michael's Church, York.
Below, Left: Mr. and Mrs. George Stoddart.
Below, Right: The Bride arrives. Crowd outside St. Michael's Church, York.

The MARRIAGE OF WINNIE YELLAND And JIMMIE MAC

In between the artificial and real wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Stoddart, another wedding took place, this time between Winnie Yelland, a little Midget lady, and Jimmy Mac, a 6-foot comedian who was with Fred Roper's Company at the time. This wedding also caused great excitement. It took place in August, 1930, at St. Michael's Church, Walworth Road, London, S. E.

There was a fleet of Rolls Royce cars for the wedding and the crowd was so big it took the cars nearly thirty minutes to travel three hundred yards through the crowd, even with the help of over 200 policemen. In the crush two of the cars were damaged, but no one was hurt, and the whole wedding arrangements went off without a hitch.

Wedding of Jimmie Mac and Winnie Yelland

The London papers were full of the event; it was just at the time when Amy Johnson had made her marvelous flight, and photos in the daily and evening papers showed the huge crowds watching the wedding and the crowds watching Amy Johnson, side by side. It was interesting to note that in some cases the wedding crowd was larger.

Wedding of Vivian Pascoe and Dolly Griffiths

THE MARRIAGE OF VIVIAN PASCOE And DOLLY GRIFFITHS

The next marriage was that of Vivian Pascoe and Dolly Griffiths. The wedding took place at St. Barnabas' Church, Mitcham, Surrey, on August 14th, 1932.

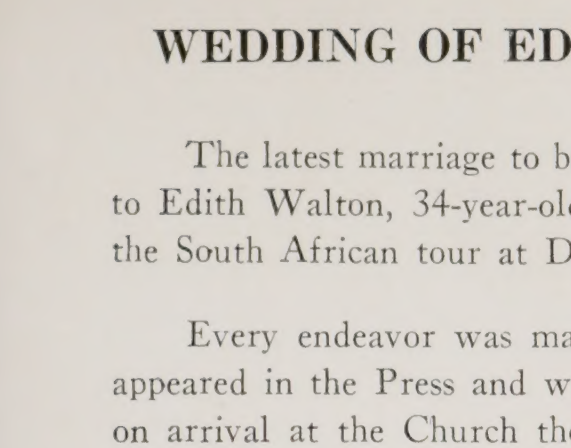
Though this wedding was kept as secret and as quiet as possible, as usual, the news leaked out and a large crowd assembled outside the church. Sound films were taken of the ceremony and the reception and many fine photographs printed in the daily papers.

WEDDING OF EDITH WALTON AND ARTHUR KAYE

The latest marriage to be solemnized was that of Arthur Kaye, 28-year-old singer, to Edith Walton, 34-year-old gymnast and trapeze artiste. This took place during the South African tour at Durban in August 1937.

Every endeavor was made to keep this wedding quiet, but somehow the news appeared in the Press and was even announced over the Radio, with the result that on arrival at the Church thousands of people were waiting to see the little couple. The Bride, Groom and Attendants had to be carried over the heads of the crowd into the Church; one Press photographer managed to get into the church and a photo of the actual ceremony appeared in the local paper!

About 200 guests, including the Lady Mayoress of Durban, were invited to the reception, but in spite of special invitation cards, over 500 people eventually "gate-crashed" the Banquet Hall, the police being unable to keep back some of the too-persistent admirers. Despite these incidents the little couple had a very happy wedding day and then went on a tour of the Game Reserve for their honeymoon.



CAN MIDGETS HAVE BABIES?

This is a question that is asked repeatedly, especially during weddings among the Midgets.

Several Midgets at present living have children, usually of normal size. One English couple under 3 feet in height have a fine boy about three years old who is bigger than either mother or father. There is another Midget between 60 and 70 years of age who has two sons, both of whom are over six feet in height, and hold prominent positions in Medicine and Law.

There is a family in Australia, the father over 6 feet in height and the mother a well proportioned woman of 5 feet seven inches, who have a family of thirteen children, with the exception of one all fully grown normal people. The exception is a little man of twenty-three years, who was only six and a half inches tall when born, and grew to eighteen and a half inches at the age of twenty-one.

CAN MIDGETS HAVE BABIES? (continued)

Midgets do not beget Midgets except on very rare occasions.

History records Francisco Leporati, born in Italy in 1730. He was three feet five inches tall. He married in his thirties a normal woman who gave birth to nine children, five of whom were Midgets. One of his sons married twice, each wife being a normal sized woman. By his first wife he had four normal children, by his second — four Midget sons!

The New York Times reported of Mrs. Henry Blosser at her death in 1932— "At birth it is said that she could be placed into a quart cup, and that her hands were so small that a grain of corn would cover them, and that a fifty cent piece would hide her face". This infinitesimal creature—weighing only nine and a half pounds at the age of nine—had as her progeny 15 children, 80 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren!

When Midgets were in high royal favor, Isabelle d'Este, first wife of Joachim Frederick, Elector of Brandenburg, and her sister Beatrice, wife of Count Ludovici, vied with each other in the retinue of Midgets. Special quarters were built in their palaces scaled to diminutive proportions. Beatrice, although mother of two children, spent days with her live, doll-like creatures.

At this time Catherine de Medici, Princess Natalia, sister of Peter the Great of Russia, and Isabelle d'Este conceived the idea of mating Midgets to propagate their breed.

As these matings were often by royal command, rather than by choice, it was an unhappy experiment. Natalia learned that Midgets gave birth to normal babies, and, in those days of limited surgical knowledge, led not to birth of other Midgets but to death in child-birth. So strongly did she feel about the unwisdom of these "experimental" marriages that she appealed to the Tsar, her brother, to issue a decree forbidding the nobles to instigate these Midget marriages, as "Midgets did not beget Midgets".

A remarkable mother was Judith Skinner, only two feet two inches tall and married happily for twenty-three years to her Midget husband Robert, two feet one inch tall. She gave birth to fourteen normal-sized, healthy children, all of whom grew to adulthood. She survived fourteen Caesarean operations, a year and a half apart from each other.

After the pair had retired from public exhibition and the large family had used up all its money, Robert Skinner in 1742 went on exhibition in London with his wife and all their children and within two years retired again with over 20,000 pounds ($110,000).

Mrs. Tom Thumb gave birth to a three pound baby girl who died within a year.

The union of Richard Gibson and Ann Shephard, both three feet ten inches, resulted in nine normal-sized children, five of whom grew to men and women of normal size who were a great joy to them in their old age.

RELAXATION AND ENTERTAINMENT

Throughout the ages it has seemed that man has enjoyed his relaxation the more while being regaled by Song, Dance and Story.

The Romans were well aware of this truth, and on their important holidays put on quite super shows; these were a little "Circusy" as to taste and rather ran to "Nero's Stupendous Untrained Lion Ensemble" with "Chorus of Galloping Martyrs". 'Tis said that Caligula used whimsically to dip a few slaves in oil and use them as human torches, thus no doubt forerunning the spot-lighting effects used in the Little Miracle Town Theatre.

The medieval Lord of the Manor was presumably more humane. He savoured his entertainment with jesters, harpists and minstrels. One cannot help a suspicion though, that were the jests too sorry, the unfortunate bards a little later provided both food and frolic for the bloodhounds baying in the court-yard.

Then in the Naughty Nineties we come to the Can-Can at the Moulin Rouge. Thus sadism went out, sauciness crept into the fare and so began the leg show phase.

Morris Gest has travelled a long way from all these styles in presenting the Little Miracle Town Theatre. What this entertainment has lost in ferocity, it has gained in taste and technique.

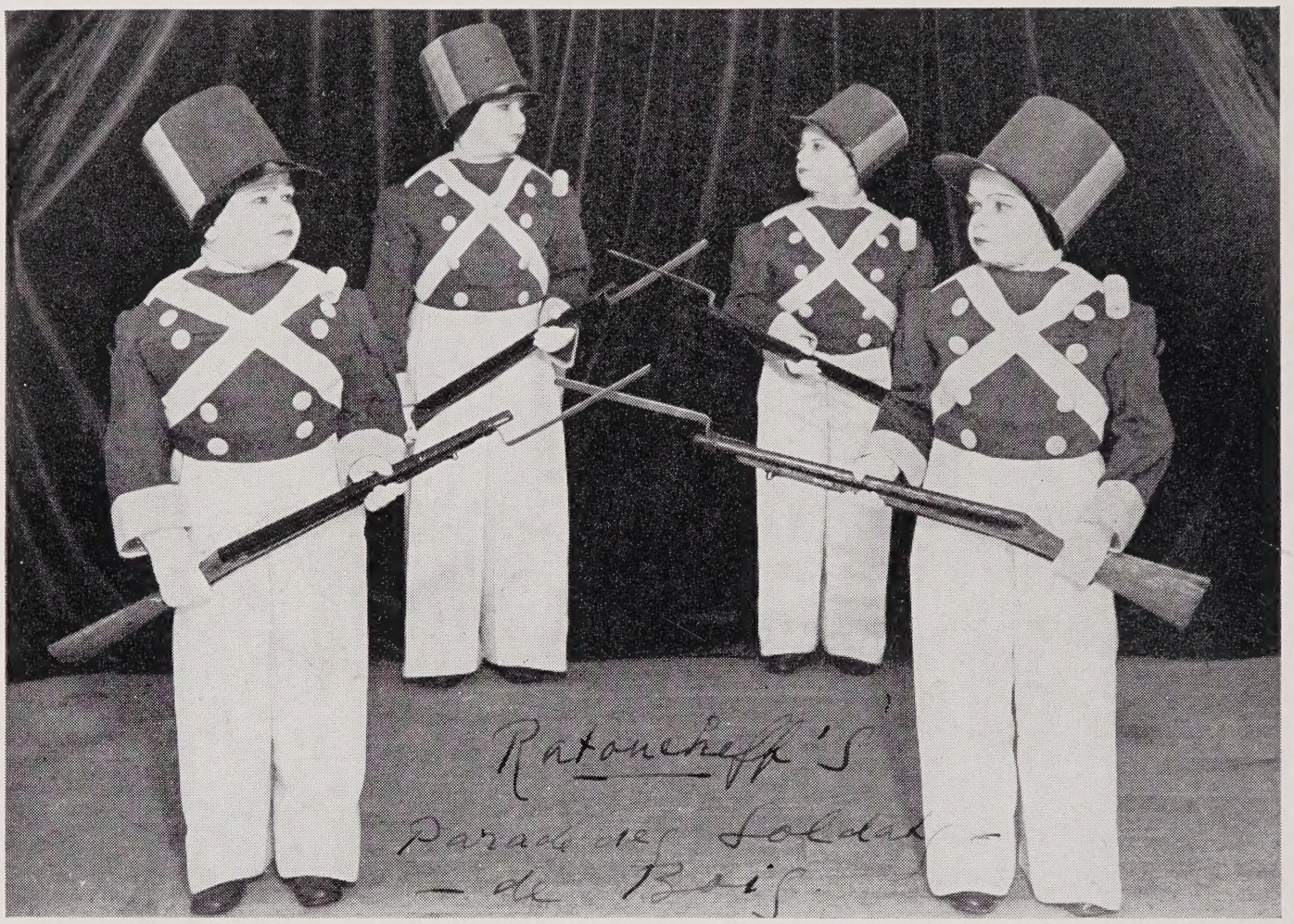
The ingredients of the show have been carefully chosen, a little humour, a little pathos, a spice of song and a sprinkling of dance, a measure of music and a pinch of thrills, gently stirred and blended together by a master hand. Morris Gest produces a dish fit for a King.

The Red Knights

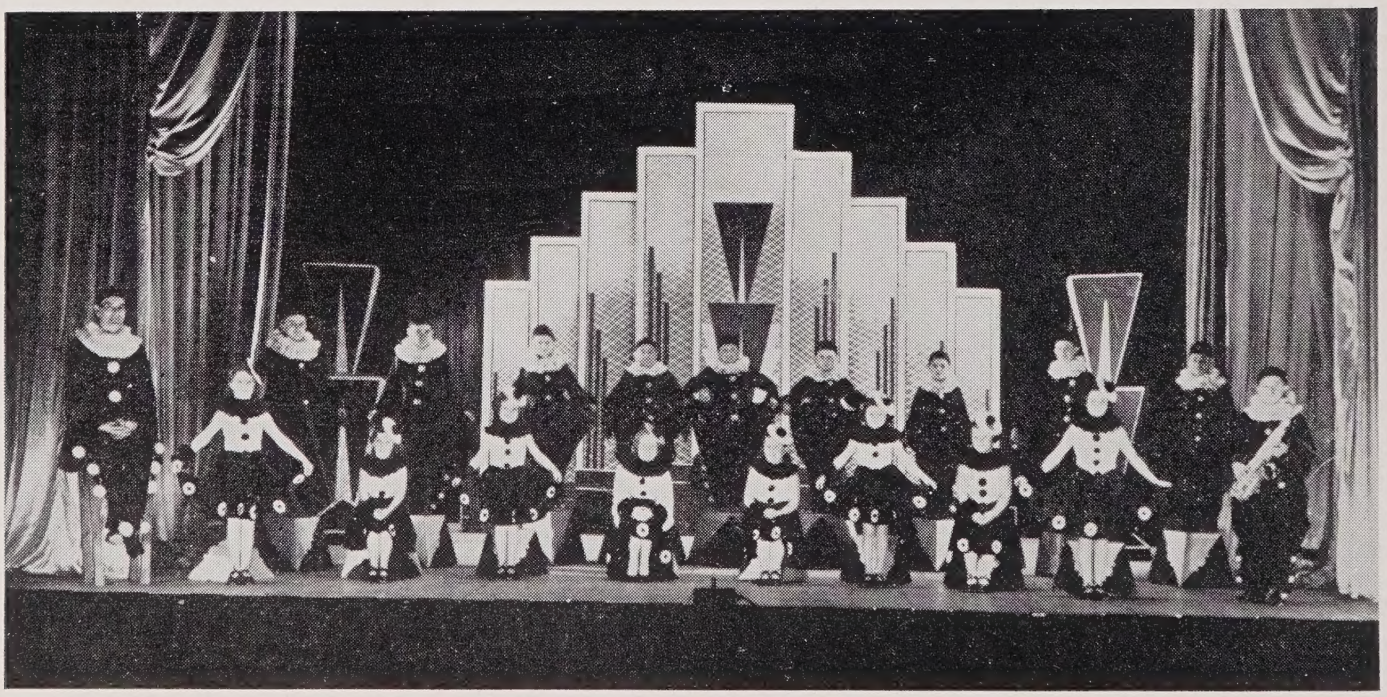
The Wedding of the Dolls

SCENES From The SHOWS

Andre Ratoucheff as Carmen



Parade of the Wooden Soldiers

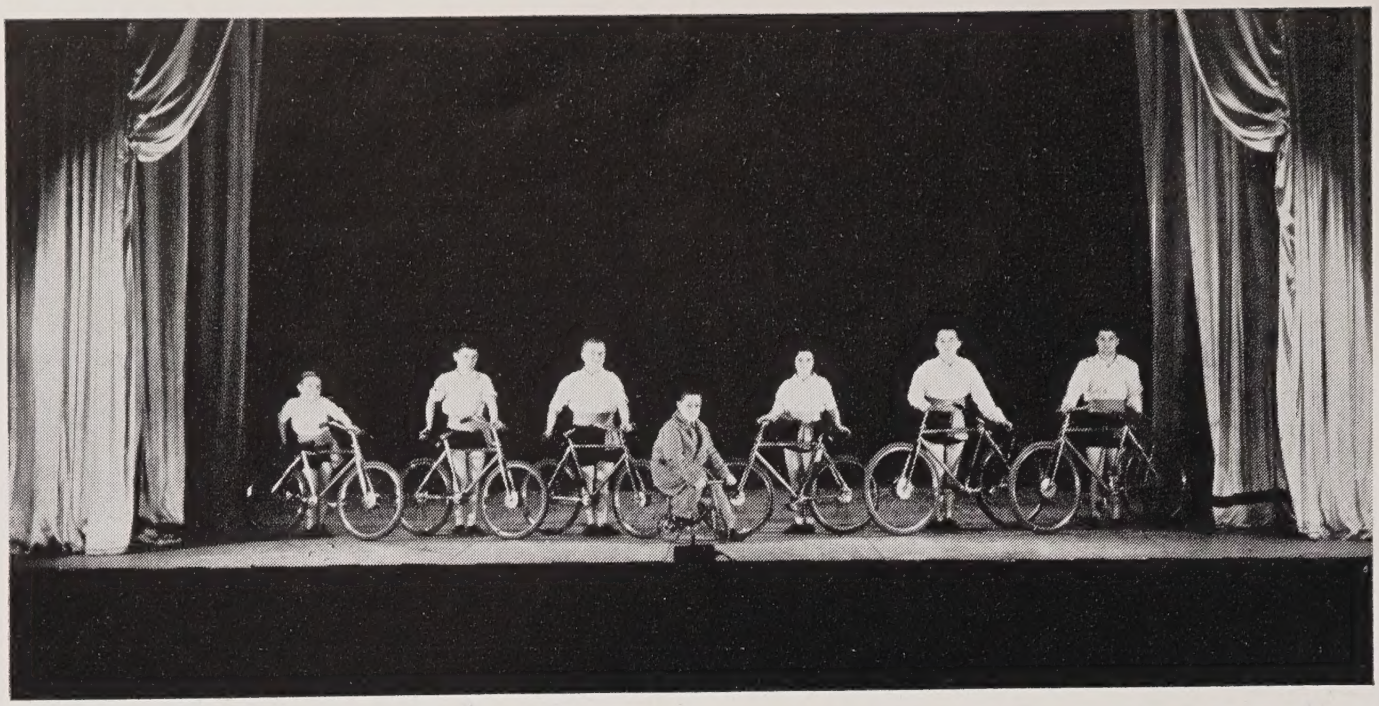


Cabaret Time

Ronnie Street
as
Himself

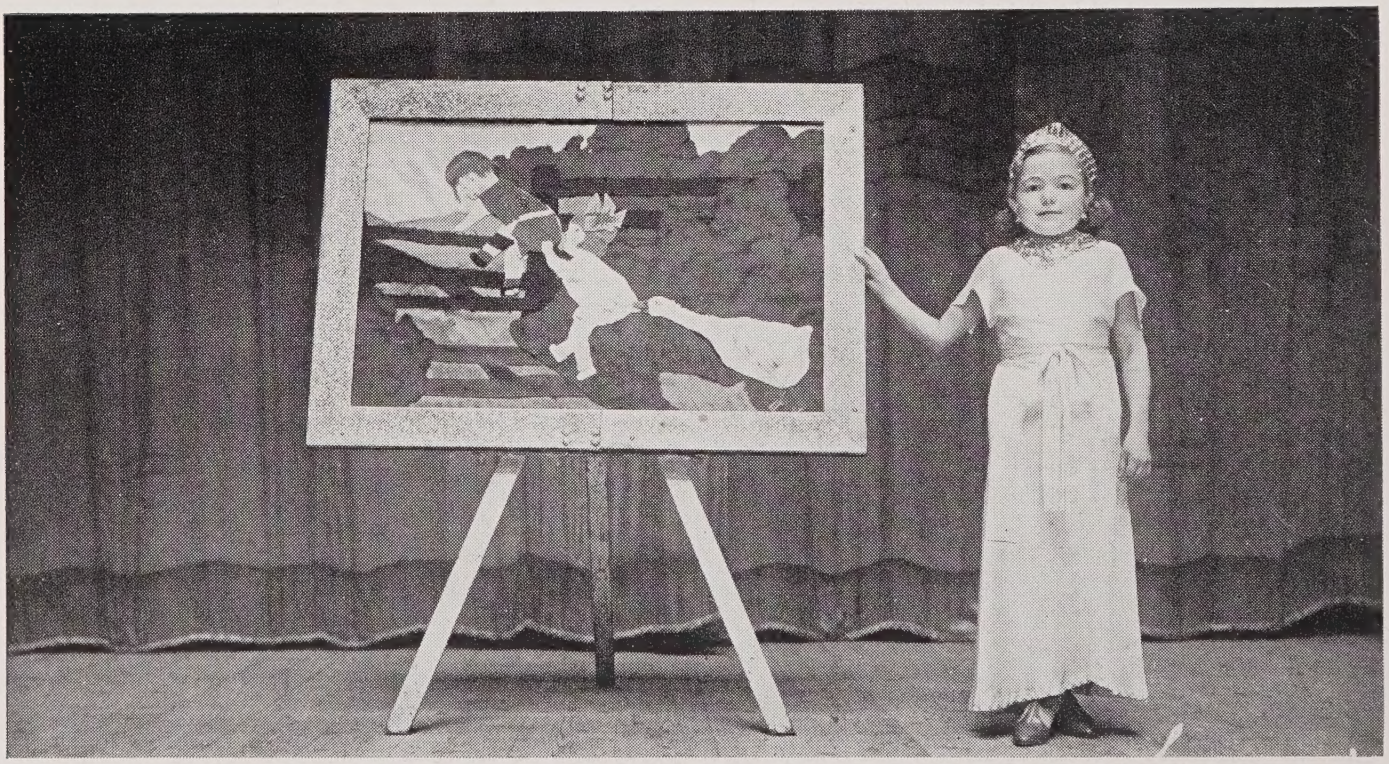
Acrobatricks!

The Midget Melody Makers



Trick Cyclists

Midget Military Band



Painting with Rags

Old Dresden

Pot-Pourri

The Blue and White Guards

EXCELLING AT SPORT

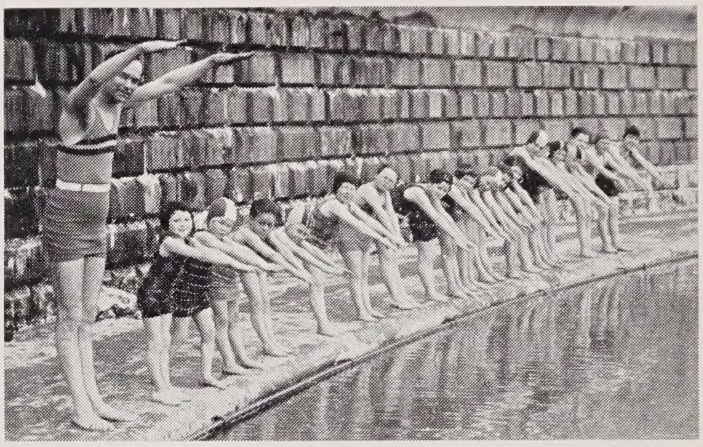
The Midgets' chief sport is swimming, and most of them are expert divers. Vivian Pascoe has won a silver cup and a bronze medal for his proficiency in that direction. At Jersey he distinguished himself by rescuing Little Lady Godiva, who was caught by a big wave while bathing and got carried out of her depth.

Samuel Thurling is a golfing enthusiast, and in an open midget golf championship at Bath in 1931, was awarded a silver cup. Last summer, the Midgets gave swimming exhibitions at Scarborough, Rhyl and Southport, England.

Little Lady Godiva, Ronnie Street and James Wetton, all went on a breathless spin round the "Wall of Death" at Scarborough, piloted by Fearless Winnie, the well-known young lady motor-cyclist. They certainly aren't troubled with nerves.

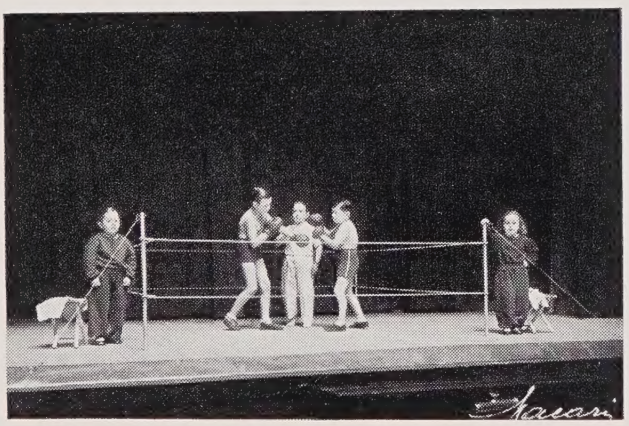
The Midgets formed a football team during their South African tour, and while at Durban, met the local Jockeys in a charity match which attracted about 8,000 people. The Midgets won the match by 4 goals to 1. A return game was arranged and again the Midgets won, this time 3-1. The Jockeys were determined to have their revenge and travelled from Durban to Pietermaritzburg for a third and final game in which the Midgets proved the victors by 5 goals to 2.

Midgets vs. Jockeys. South Africa

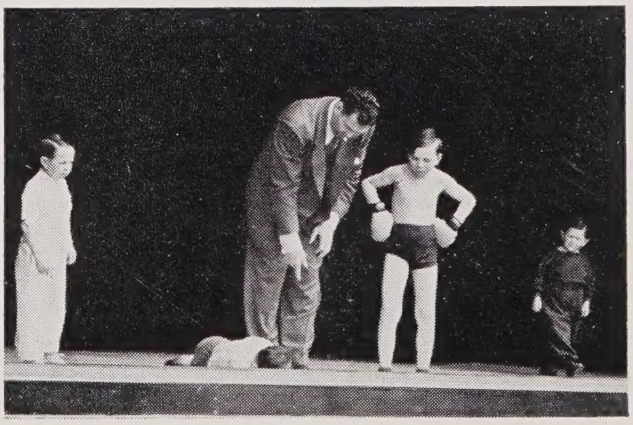


Aquatic Display. England

FLEA-WEIGHT TITLE BOUT. Referee JACK DEMPSEY



Sparring.....Jack separates the seconds



Counting.....Out! !